

**NEWARK
PUBLIC
INFORMATION
OFFICE**



City Hall, 920 Broad Street, Room 214
Newark, New Jersey 07102
(973) 733-8004
Sharpe James, Mayor
Pamela E. Goldstein, Director

June 2, 2000

Mr. Jim Murphy
Executive Producer
CBS News
524 West 57th Street
New York, New York 10019

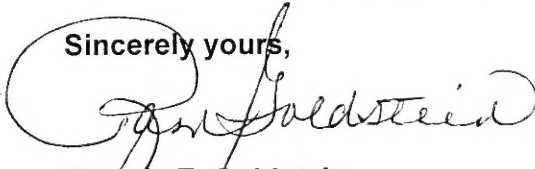
Dear Mr. Murphy:

A recent CBS Evening News report on Newark Councilman Cory Booker, which aired on our local WCBS station, Wednesday evening, May 31, contained erroneous information regarding the official. In the broadcast, it was reported that Mr. Booker is the first attorney to serve on the Newark Municipal Council.

This statement is simply untrue, and is a fact that could easily have been verified if your researchers had called either my office or that of the City Clerk's. In fact, five attorneys served on the Newark City Council before Mr. Booker. They include: City Council President Ralph Villani, who was a municipal court judge before being elected to the governing body; Anthony Giuliani, who went on to become a Superior Court judge; Philip E. Gordon; Joseph Melillo, and Louis M. Turco, who also served as Council president. I have enclosed their biographies from the City Council publication, *Know Your City Government* for your information.

I realize that your network news staff does not get to Newark very often, but perhaps as the City's rebirth continues to attract the interest of more and more media, CBS also may want to take an "in depth" look at this City, whose exciting comeback did not occur overnight, but as the result of many dedicated people who labored in the trenches for many years in the more difficult times, as well as these more recent successful days because they believed in Newark and knew its potential. And, maybe at that time, your staff will endeavor to acquaint themselves with some of the fascinating history of this, the third oldest major city in America and the people who have been part of that history.

Sincerely yours,



Pamela E. Goldstein
Communication Manager

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